

Listing of the Claims:

What is Claimed:

1-67. (Canceled)

68. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling access to digital content, the method comprising:

storing with a first computing device a plurality of licenses for authorizing use of the content, the licenses being defined from a configurable rule that is based at least in part on at least one user attribute;

receiving with a second computing device a request to use the content;

determining with the second computing device whether or not at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use of the content;

responsive to said determination, allowing the requested use of the content if at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use; and

providing with a third computing device an option to modify at least one of the user attributes to qualify for a license, responsive to the determining finding that none of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the user attribute comprises the user's age.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the user attribute comprises the user's residence.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the user attribute comprises a payment method.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein at least one of the plurality of licenses comprises at least one grant.
73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the rule comprises a Boolean-based expression.
74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein determining whether or not at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use comprises comparing an entitlement requirement of at least one of the plurality of licenses against an attribute of a user who has made the request.
75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74, wherein determining whether or not at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use comprises evaluating at least one Boolean expression.
76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, wherein the Boolean expression comprises at least one argument based on the user attribute.
77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises playback.
78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises copying to a compact disc.
79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises copying to a digital video disc.
80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises copying to a hard-drive.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises downloading to a portable player.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the rule is dynamically reconfigurable.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein at least one of the plurality of licenses is dynamically reconfigurable.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein determining whether or not at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use comprises determining whether or not a license grant has been obtained by a user who has made the request.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein providing information on how to qualify for a license comprises providing a user attribute that would allow authorization of the requested use.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein providing information on how to qualify for a license comprises providing an amount of money that, if received, would allow authorization of the requested use.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein the first and second computing devices are the same computing device.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein the first, second and third computing devices are the same computing device.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein the first and third computing devices are the same computing device.

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein the second and third computing devices are the same computing device.

91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein the user attribute comprises a computing device unique identifier.

92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, further comprising:
providing with the third computing device an option to purchase a license, if none of the plurality of licenses authorizes the use.